

handle bars may be rigidly secured to the foot supporting members rather than rotatably mounted on the frame. Also, the orientation of the path traveled by the force receiving members may be adjusted in other ways, as well. For example, an upper stanchion member may move relative to a lower stanchion member and be secured in place by a detent pin arrangement or a lead screw assembly.

In conclusion, the present invention has been described with reference to particular embodiments and applications, but those skilled in the art will recognize additional embodiments, modifications, and/or applications which fall within the scope of the present invention. Also, design considerations may lead to a variety of conventional modifications, such as the addition of inertia altering devices, including, for example, a motor, a "stepped up" flywheel, or an adjustable brake of some sort, and/or the restructuring of parts and/or assemblies, including, for example, rotatably interconnecting components so that an end of a first component is nested between opposing prongs on the end of a second component. Therefore, the scope of the present invention is to be limited only to the extent of the claims which follow.

What is claimed is:

1. An exercise apparatus, comprising:
a frame sized and configured to rest upon a horizontal floor surface;
left and right cranks rotatably mounted on the frame and rotatable about a common crank axis;
left and right rollers rotatable relative to the frame and selectively movable in a plane extending perpendicular to the crank axis; and
left and right foot supports having first portions rotatably connected to respective cranks, and second portions disposed on top of respective rollers, and third portions sized and configured to support respective feet of a person, wherein said foot supports are movable in both rotational and translational fashion relative to said respective rollers.
2. The exercise apparatus of claim 1, wherein the rollers are rotatably mounted on respective rocker links which are pivotally mounted on the frame.
3. The exercise apparatus of claim 2, wherein upper ends of the rocker links are sized and configured for grasping.
4. An exercise apparatus, comprising:
a frame sized and configured to rest upon a horizontal floor surface;
left and right cranks rotatably mounted on the frame and rotatable about a common crank axis;
left and right rollers rotatable relative to the frame and selectively movable in a plane extending perpendicular to the crank axis, wherein the rollers are movable at a user's discretion during rotation of the cranks; and
left and right foot supports having first portions rotatably connected to respective cranks, and second portions supported by respective rollers, and third portions sized and configured to support respective feet of a person.
5. The exercise apparatus of claim 4, wherein the rollers are rotatably mounted on respective rocker links which are pivotally mounted on the frame.
6. The exercise apparatus of claim 5, wherein upper ends of the rocker links are sized and configured for grasping.
7. An exercise apparatus, comprising:
a frame sized and configured to rest upon a horizontal floor surface;
left and right cranks rotatably mounted on the frame and rotatable about a common crank axis;

left and right rollers rotatable relative to the frame and selectively movable through parallel paths of motion while in axial alignment with one another; and

left and right foot supports having first portions rotatably connected to respective cranks, and second portions supported by respective rollers, and third portions sized and configured to support respective feet of a person.

8. The exercise apparatus of claim 7, wherein the rollers are rotatably mounted on respective rocker links which are pivotally mounted on the frame.

9. The exercise apparatus of claim 8, wherein upper ends of the rocker links are sized and configured for grasping.

* * * * *

THESE CLAIMS